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Senate

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, our help and shelter, we look to You for defense. Defend us from temptation. Help us to say no to tempting voices and the things that lead to ruin as You teach us to follow Your blueprint for abundant living. Defend us from arrogance as You help us to esteem others as significant because we can see Your image in them. Defend us from ingratitude in the day of prosperity.

Today, defend our lawmakers from discouragement so that they will persevere in well-doing, with the knowledge that the harvest, though delayed, is not denied. Help them to remember that no time exists when You will fail them, and no moment comes when You will forsake them.

Lord, defend each of us from a stubbornness that refuses to be guided by Your light and sustained by Your grace.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will be a pe-

riod for the transaction of morning business until 3 p.m., with the first half of the time under the control of the majority leader or his designee and the second half of the time under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee.

The Senator from Kentucky is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today the Senate will conduct a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with the first hour under the control of the majority and the second under the control of the Democratic leader or his designee. Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the Interior appropriations bill. Under a previous agreement, all amendments to the bill must be offered during today's session. The majority leader announced on Friday that there will be no rollcall votes today, but Senators who have amendments to the bill should make themselves available to offer and debate their amendments.

I also remind my colleagues that the next vote will occur tomorrow morning, shortly before 10 a.m. That vote will be on the passage of H.R. 6, the Energy bill. Following disposition of the Energy bill, the Senate will resume consideration of the Interior appropriations bill, and we will vote on previously offered amendments to the Interior appropriations bill tomorrow.

In addition to the vote on passage of the Energy bill and completing work on the Interior appropriations bill, the Senate will act on any additional appropriations measures, including the Homeland Security appropriations bill and other legislative or executive items. This is the last week of the session before the July 4 recess and Senators should expect a busy week with votes throughout.

GUANTANAMO BAY

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I rise to speak about our operation at Guantanamo Bay, in Cuba. There is so much information out there that is untrue, it must be corrected. Yesterday, I went to Guantanamo Bay with my colleagues, Senator CRAPO and Senator ISAKSON. We went to see for ourselves what all the so-called fuss is about down there, and we want to help set the record straight.

While we were there we also saw Senator WYDEN and Senator BEN NELSON. I am sure they will tell you what they saw when they come to speak on the Senate floor.

Our soldiers assigned in Cuba are on an island within an island. The base is isolated from the rest of Cuba, and it is isolated from the rest of our military. Our troops do not just drive off post to go watch a movie or to go to the mall. All they have is on post, from shopping to entertainment to food.

Many serving at Guantanamo leave their families behind. Some are National Guard troops, far away from home. It is a tough life, and they have a job that is mentally and physically challenging.

As we toured the detention camps, our troops patrolled the buildings and open areas in full uniform. In the afternoon, the temperatures reached into the high 80s, and the humidity could not have gotten much worse. But those brave young men and women stood guard over the detainees to keep them in line and protect them from other detainees.

Probably the weather and the Sun are the last things our troops are worried about. The people they are guarding are the terrorists. They are the worst of the worst. They are all dangerous. Many directly fought Americans on the battlefield, killing and wounding our soldiers, yet our young men and women watch over these terrorists and provide for them. They do this despite the terrorists having taken

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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